GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2304
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2006
IMPORT OF LNG
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the import of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) from different sources during each of the last three years;

(b) the requirement of LNG usage in gas based power plants operational and planned in the country;

(c) whether the Government proposes policy formulation to allow foreign suppliers of LNG and other petroleum products to become shareholders in petro projects, power plants and other development projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) There are two LNG terminals in operation, namely 5 MMTPA Dahej LNG Terminal of Petronet LNG Ltd. (PLL) and 2.5 MMTPA Hazira Terminal of M/s Hazira LNG Private Ltd. (HLPL). PLL has a long term contract with RasGas, Qatar for import of LNG. The year-wise LNG imports made by PLL from RasGas, Qatar during the last three years, are as under:

Year	LNG imported (MMTPA)
2003-04	0.062
2004-05	2.43
2005-06	4.81

In addition, HLPL imported 0.171 MMTPA LNG during 2005-06 from spot market.

(b) The estimated requirement of natural gas, including RLNG, for the power sector has been estimated at 79.70 MMSCMD for 2007-08.

(c) & (d): According to the current Government policy, 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is allowed in projects relating to market study and formulation, investment/ financing and setting up infrastructure for marketing in Petroleum & Natural Gas sector, subject to sectoral regulations. In the field of refining, FDI upto 26% is allowed in the case of PSUs, whereas 100% FDI is allowed in private companies.